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HEALTH
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To the Chairman and Members,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,
In accordance with the Statute of Local Government
Act, 1900 an Interim Report on the lines of the previous reports
is presented for this year. It includes a full account of
urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year.
All medical and preventive work being conducted so that the largest
possible measure of health is maintained and improved.

ANNUAL REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting to you this report for your
consideration. The following is a summary of the work done during
the year and of the health administration in the Urban District
of Brierton for the year 1955.

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1955

Abous

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
BRIERFIELD.

MAY 1956.

To the Chairman and Members,
BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

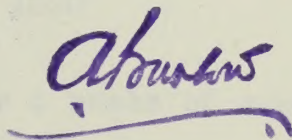
Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 17/55 an Interim Report on the lines of the previous reports is presented for this year. It includes only essential or urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that the Annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary Conditions and Public Health Administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended December 31st 1955.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
BIRMINGHAM.
MAY 1956.

to the Chairman and Members,
BIRMINGHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular
No. 1785 an interim report on the lines of the previous reports
is presented for this year. It includes only essential or
urgent matters, which have affected Public Health during the year.
All records of the year are complete.

I have pleasure in submitting this interim report on the Public Health
conditions and Public Health Administration in the Urban District
of Birmingham for the year ended December 31st 1955.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

Charles

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1955 according to the Rate Book was 2,557, the rateable value being £45,385 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £189.

The social conditions were generally quite good. The chief industry is Cotton weaving, with a small amount of spinning and dyeing.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION The Population as estimated by the Registrar General for mid 1955 is 6,850.

BIRTHS. 99 Live births belonging to the district occurred during 1955 as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births (Legitimate)	36	55	91
(Illegitimate)	6	2	8
	<u>42</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>99</u>
Still Births (Legitimate)	1	-	1
(Illegitimate)	-	-	-

Comparative particulars with regards to live births over the last five years are given in the following tables:-

	1955	1954	1953	1952.	1951
Total Live Births	99	87	99	90	94
Crude birth rate per 1000 estimated popln	14.5	12.6	14.4	12.9	14.7
Adjusted Rate.	16.0				

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(a) All infants per 1000 live Births	10
(b) Legitimate infants per 1000 Legitimate live births	10

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

(a) Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	Nil
(b) Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	Nil

Comparative particulars with regards to infant Mortality over the last five years are given in the following tables.

1954.	1953.	1952.	1951.	1950.
23	30	22	10	22

MATERNAL
MORTALITY

(a) Deaths from Childbirth Pregnancy and abortion	Nil
(b) Mortality Rate per 1000 total (Live and still births)	Nil

DEATHS.

112 Deaths belonging to the district
occurred during 1955 as follows:-

Deaths within the	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Urban District	31	38	72
Deaths outside the District (in Hospitals Institutions etc.)	24	16	40
	<u>58</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>112</u>

Comparative particulars with regard to deaths
over the last five years are given in the following
tables.

	1955.	1954.	1953.	1952	1951
Total Deaths	112	101	89	90	130
Crude Death rate per 1000 estmd. population	16.4	14.6	13.4	13.1	18.3
Adjusted rate	14.6				

The following table gives the ages at which deaths
occurred, also the cause of all deaths belonging
to Brierfield during 1955.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 yr	5- 15	25- 65.	Over 65	TOTAL.
Coronary Thrombosis	-	-	6	7	13
Cerebral Thrombosis	-	-	2	13	15
Arterio sclerosis	-	-	1	6	7
Accident	-	1	1	1	3
Pneumonia	1	-	-	2	3
Myocardial Degen.	-	-	1	19	20
Carcinoma	-	-	5	12	17
Bronchitis	-	-	1	3	4
Pulmonary T. B.	-	-	2	1	3
Subarachnoid Haem.	-	-	-	2	2
Senility	-	-	-	6	6
Hyperpiesis	-	-	1	2	3
Lt. Ventricular Fail.	-	-	-	1	1
Neoplasm of Stomach	-	-	-	1	1
Angina Pectoris	-	-	1	-	1
Uraemia	-	-	-	2	2
Gastro Enteritis	-	-	-	1	1
Mitral Stenosis	-	-	1	-	1
Meningo Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	1
Duodenal Ulcer	-	-	-	1	1
Parkinsonism	-	-	1	-	1
Hypertension	-	-	3	3	6
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>112</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955.

<u>Age Period</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Over 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
<hr/>								
	4	2	1	-	2	1	-	-
	6		1		3		Nil	

CASES ON REGISTER AT THE 31st DECEMBER 1955.

On the register at the end of December 1955, there were 32 cases of Tuberculosis (26 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary) as follows:-

	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Over 65	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	6	6	3	6	4	1	26
Non-Pulmonary								
Cervical glands	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Testis	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Both Legs.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
<hr/>								
	2	6	6	5	7	5	1	32

As all these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer, we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The nearest clinic is at Burnley and any cases discovered are advised to attend this clinic.

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

There are no social workers in this area, but the Burnley and District House of Help does good work in this direction.

LABORATORY WORK.

This work is carried out at the Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley as and when necessary.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following:-

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Urban District is serviced by ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station at Reedley and both ambulance and sitting cases cars are available.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

The Infant Welfare Centre for the Urban District is held weekly under the supervision of Nurse Bush, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

There is one District Midwife assigned to Brierfield who resides within the District.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	Per 1000 Estimated Population	
	<u>Crude Live Birth Rate</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate.</u>
Means of 5 years 1950 - 54	13.4	14.8
Year 1954	12.6	14.6
" 1955	14.5	16.4
Increase or decrease in 1955 on 5 years average 1950-54	+1.1	+1.6
Previous Year	+1.9	+1.8

	<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE</u>		<u>RATE OF DEATH</u>
	<u>per 1000 Live Births</u>	<u>Per 1000 Live and Stillbirths</u>	<u>of infants under 1 year per 1000 Live Births.</u>
Means of 5 years 1950-54	-	-	21.4
Year 1954	-	-	23
Year 1955	-	-	10
Increase or decrease in 1955 on 5 years average 1950-54	-	-	-11.4
Previous Year	-	-	-13.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN T.B.)
DURING THE YEAR

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES	UNDER 1 yr	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-65	65& Ovr.	Total cases Rem'd to hos pital	Deaths in Hos of per belong to Dis
Measles	19	1	2	11	4	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	12	2	-	4	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ac.Pr.Pneum.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Sc. Fever	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puer. Prex.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Polio. (P)	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Dysentery	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Food Poison.	7	1	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-
	50	5	2	17	13	2	4	3	4	3	-

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sanitary, Cleansing and Sewage Committee:- Chairman, Councillor Duckworth, Vice-Chairman, Councillor Berry, Councillors, Atkinson, Birtwhistle, Clegg, Kinder, King, Lindow, Parker, Twist, Williams and Woodcock.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health
Qualifications:-
Duties:-

Dr. A. Barlow.
M.B., Ch.B.
Part time, Practitioner and Treasury
M. O.

Sanitary Inspector.
Qualifications:-

B. Duerden, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Certificate R. S. I. and S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate R.S.I. for Inspectors of
meat and other foods.
Certificate R.S.I. Smoke Inspectors.
City and Guilds Certificate Boiler-
House Practice.
City and Guilds Certificate Sanitary
Engineering.

Duties.

All normal Sanitary Inspector's duties.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation, and there were no new sources of supply during the year. The water is of good quality and in good supply, apart from a few houses in the Marsden Heights area, where the supply is intermittent and a few houses in various streets where, probably the joint service pipes are too small. All dwelling houses within the district except one, are supplied direct from Public mains. The one exception which is supplied by spring water, consist of an isolated farm dwelling situated a considerable distance from the nearest Public mains. During the year, the Nelson Water Dept. did a considerable amount of work in the re-servicing of terraced property where the existing mains was inadequate; 20 premises being re-serviced from new mains.

Supplies to Houses

No. of Houses supplied direct
from Public Mains

2556

Extension of Water
Mains during the year

New Mains were extended to the Council Houses under construction on the Parson Clough Estate.

WATER SAMPLING.

- (a) Public Mains No. of Bacteriological examinations 14
Results. In four samples taken during the
summer small B. Coli counts were obtained.
- (b) Private Supply No. of Bacteriological Examinations 14.
Results: Seven samples satisfactory but in
the other samples. B. Coli counts
were obtained.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage is carried by gravity feed to the Disposal Works at the lowest part of the District. Treatment is by means of screens, detritus tanks, sedimentation tanks, rotary filters and humus tanks, the effluent from the works is discharged into Pendle water. New extensions were laid to the surface and foul water sewers on the Parson Clough Housing Estate.

Drainage Etc. No. of drains inspected during the year 152.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privy Middens. Nil

No. of Pail closets. (At isolated dwellings) 7. These are emptied weekly by Council employees.

No. of Fresh Water Closets. 1422.

No. of Waste Water closets 1368

CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEAR

No. of pail closets to fresh water closets 1

No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets 36

No. of houses on water carriage system 2552

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District. Conversion of waste water closets.

Public Cleansing. This was carried out by direct labour with a three ton "Thames" Tipping Wagon. Domestic Refuse was collected weekly free of charge from private houses, shops and mills and disposed of by controlled tipping on the council's tip.

No. of Moveable ash-bins. 2826.

Salvage Work. Salvage work has been well maintained and the following amounts of materials were salvaged during the year.

Weights				Materials	Amount realized.		
T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.		£.	s.	d.
139.	15.	2.	0.	Waste Paper	1068.	7.	4.
2.	7.	0.	14	Rags	47.	2.	10.
10.	7.	1.	0.	Metal (Scrap)	52.	3.	3.

TOTAL 152. 9. 3. 14

TOTAL £1167. 13. 5.

For comparison purposes the statistics relating to the last four years are set out as follows:-

Year	Weights of Salvage			Total Rev.		
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
1951	205.	13.	0.	2059.	15.	6.
1952	134.	2.	0.	1265.	10.	3.
1953	154.	18.	3.	871.	0.	3.
1954	132.	2.	1.	926.	9.	10.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1955 (Including Housing.)

No. of complaints received	229
No. of premises visited	971
No. of visits made	1455
No. of defects or nuisance discovered	466
No. remedied	351
No. of Notices served (Statutory)	20
(Informal)	159

DISINFESTATION. Eight dwellings were disinfested during the year for cockroach infestation and one dwelling for flea infestation. Gammexane Smoke Generators being used.

CAMPING SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There is one caravan licenced under the Public Health Act 1936 situated on a site within the District. This caravan is of a modern type and well maintained.

Pet Animals Act 1951

One shop was re-licenced under the Act, the premises being maintained in a satisfactory condition.

HOUSING.CONDITION.

The majority of the houses are in terraces, stone built and from 50 to 70 years old. The later types are brick built and mainly semi-detached. Many are owner/occupied and well maintained. There are still many vacant houses advertised for sale within the district; the majority of owners being reluctant to re-let.

Back to Back Houses

There are 17 such houses, the majority being extremely well maintained and in good condition.

New Buildings

16 Two bedroom type houses were completed by the Local Authority during the year on the Parson Clough Estate; also 20 one bedroom flats are contemplated on two vacant sites now acquired by the Authority near the Town centre.
There were no new houses erected by private enterprise during the year.

Over-crowding No new cases were reported, but the existing conditions are gradually being relieved as new houses are erected.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	126
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal made	310
(c) Number of houses found not to be in all respect fit for human habitation, but capable of being rendered fit	115.

Clearance Areas Housing Act 1936.

No. of dwelling houses demolished during the year	5
No. of persons displaced.	8

Houses not included in clearance areas Housing Act 1936.

(1) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	1
(11) No. of persons displaced	4
(11) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	2
No. of persons displaced.	2

Repairs during the year.

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	75
(b) Public Health Act - action after service of formal notice houses in which defects were remedied	
(1) By owners	3
(11) by Local Authority in default of owners	1
(c) Housing Act 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit -	
(1) By owners.	3
(11) By Local authority in default of owners	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

No. of distributors registered by the Local Authority and operating from:-

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) Dairies in the district | 4 |
| (b) Premises outside the district | 13 |
| (c) Shops in the district other than dairies | 24. |

No. of dealers licences (including Supplementary Licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1955 in respect of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk:- 8

No. of Licences issued in respect of	-(Pasteurised	10
"Heat Treated Milk"	-(Sterilised	30

MILK SAMPLING.

<u>Type of Test</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>RESULTS.</u>
Biological	11	All satisfactory
Methylene blue	11	9 satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory, the area Milk Production Officer being notified of these.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

There are no public or private slaughter houses in operation within the district.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES.

7 Ice cream samples were obtained from manufacturers and retailers within the district during the year. The Public Health Laboratory reported that five samples were satisfactory and two samples unsatisfactory. The Manufacturer where the two unsatisfactory samples were obtained was interviewed and advice given. A further sample taken from this source was subsequently found to be satisfactory.

FOOD POISONING.

There were 7 cases of Food Poisoning reported during the year all from one household. The vehicle of infection was subsequently found on analysis to be rice pudding consumed by the occupants during the mid-day meal. The organism responsible being a Staphylococcal infection.

SPECIAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD STOCKS DURING THE YEAR.

One and half cwts of a certain brand of skimmed dried milk powder in use at school canteens within the district was examined and samples taken for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Burnley. The Laboratory reported no pathogenic organisms found.

FOOD STUFF CONDEMNATIONS.

13 lbs of beef.	1 imported ham.
2 tins Cornbeef.	1 tin of beans.
1 tin of meat loaf.	1 tin of strawberries.
1 tin of liquid whole egg.	

FOOD PREMISES. Number of Food Premises by type of
business in district at the end of year

TYPE OF BUSINESS.

No. of premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold	No. of Inspections Made
Butchers and Meat Products Shop	11
Fish and Chip Shops	42
Bakehouses	20
Greengrocers and wet fish shops	55
Grocers	14
Inns	52
Other premises including clubs canteens and snackbars	7
No. of premises registered under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act or under Local Acts.	17 29

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No. Registered</u>	<u>No. of inspections of registered premises during the year.</u>
Butchers and Meat Products	12	42
Bakehouses	6	26
Premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold	27	11

FACTORIES ACT 1937

(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	<u>No. o Register</u>	<u>Insptn.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>
	4	4	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52	66	6
	56	70	6

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No. of Factory chimneys in the district	5
No. of observations taken during the year	17
Smoke Nuisances discovered.	3

In every case where excessive smoke emissions occurred, the premises were visited and the occupants notified, also routine visits were made to all industrial boiler plants in the district during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

A poison treatment of the Council's Sewage System was carried out in sewer manholes twice during the year, a total of 228 manholes being pre-baited and 80 manholes poison baited, in addition the following infested properties were treated by the Rodent Operator.

<u>Local Authority Property</u>	<u>Dwelling Houses</u>	<u>Business Premises</u>
8	23	14

